



PATENT
29038/10006

3652
AG
12/15/01
#9

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

THOMAS et al.

Serial No: 09/486,280

Filed: February 24, 2000

For: MULTI-PURPOSE VESSEL
AND METHOD FOR
RECOVERING, STORING AND/OR
TRANSPORTING AND OFF-
LOADING MATERIAL IN A
DREDGING OPERATION

Group Art Unit: 3652

Examiner: J. Krizek

) I hereby certify that this paper is being
) deposited with the United States Postal
) Service as first class mail, postage
) prepaid, in an envelope addressed to:
) Commissioner of Patents and
) Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231,
) on this date:

October 19, 2001

) David C. Read
) Registration No. 39,811
) Attorney For Applicants

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed September 25, 2001, Applicant hereby elects to prosecute claims 1 through 36, drawn to multi-purpose vessels.

This election is made without traverse and without prejudice to pursuing claims 37-45, drawn to methods of handling material in waterways, in a possible divisional application.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

David C. Read
Reg. No. 39,811

October 19, 2001